

Arkansas Workforce Investment Board Issuance PY 04-09

From: Sandra Winston, Director

Date: September 10, 2004

Re: Certification Regarding Eligibility to Apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance and Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance

1. **Purpose:** To provide information concerning the Certification of Trade Adjustment Assistance for Morse Automotive Corporation, Arkadelphia, AR.
2. **Background:** See attached Certification TA-W-55282.
3. **Information:** The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance issued a Certification on August 24, 2004. Employees of this company are eligible to apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance under the Trade Act of 2002. Below is the information concerning the TAA Certification.

Haworth Inc., Jonesboro, AR	
Petition Filing Date:	July 16, 2004
Petition Number:	TAW-55282
Impact Date:	July 16, 2003
Certification Date:	August 24, 2004
Termination Date:	August 24, 2006

A Legal Notice announcing the Certification will run in a newspaper of general circulation. Employees and former employees will be mailed letters requesting that they contact their nearest local office concerning benefits available under the Trade Act of 2002. WIA staff will be advised to coordinate training activities with ESD. Local Office Managers shall ensure that adversely affected workers are offered the full range of employability services such as counseling, testing, training, job referral, placement, job- search, job relocation assistance and TRA.

4. **Action Required:** Please notify the appropriate members of your staff regarding the contents of this issuance and coordinate training activities with the WIA Provider.
5. **For Additional Information:** Direct any questions concerning this issuance to the TAA Unit at (501) 682-7082.
6. **Expiration:** August 24, 2006.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

TA-W-55,282

HAWORTH JONESBORO SYSTEMS PRODUCTS
A SUBSIDIARY OF HAWORTH, INC
INCLUDING ON-SITE LEASED WORKERS FROM STAFFMARK
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS

Certification Regarding Eligibility
To Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance and
Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974, (19 USC 2273), the Department of Labor herein presents the results of an investigation regarding certification of eligibility to apply for worker adjustment assistance.

In order to make an affirmative determination and issue a certification of eligibility to apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance, the group eligibility requirements in either paragraph (a)(2)(A) or (a)(2)(B) of Section 222 of the Trade Act must be met. It is determined in this case that the requirements of (a)(2)(A) of Section 222 have been met.

The investigation was initiated on July 20, 2004 in response to a petition filed by a state agency representative on behalf of workers of Haworth Jonesboro System Products, a subsidiary of Haworth, Inc., Jonesboro,

Arkansas. The workers at the subject firm produce office systems furniture and components.

The subject firm leases its workers from StaffMark.

The investigation revealed that sales, production and employment at the subject firm decreased during January through June of 2004 when compared to the same period of 2003.

The investigation further revealed that the subject firm did not import office systems furniture, nor did it shift production of systems furniture from the Jonesboro, Arkansas plant to another country.

The Department of Labor surveyed the subject facility's major declining customers regarding their purchase of office systems furniture and components. This survey revealed increases in imports of office systems furniture during the period under investigation.

In accordance with Section 246 of the Trade Act of 1974 (26 USC 2813), as amended, the Department of Labor herein presents the results of its investigation regarding certification of eligibility to apply for alternative trade adjustment assistance (ATAA) for older workers.

In order for the Department to issue a certification of eligibility to apply for ATAA, the group eligibility requirements of Section 246 of the Trade Act must be met.

The Department has determined in this case that the requirements of Section 246 have been met.

A significant number of workers at the firm are age 50 or over and possess skills that are not easily transferable. Competitive conditions within the industry are adverse.

Conclusion

After careful review of the facts obtained in the investigation, I determine that increases of imports of articles like or directly competitive with system furniture produced at Haworth Jonesboro System Products, a subsidiary of Haworth Inc., Jonesboro, Arkansas contributed importantly to the total or partial separation of workers and to the decline in sales or production and at that firm or subdivision. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, I make the following certification:

"All workers of Haworth Jonesboro System Products, a subsidiary of Haworth, Inc. including on-site leased workers from StaffMark, Jonesboro, Arkansas who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after July 16, 2003, through two years from the date of certification, are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974

and are also eligible to apply for alternative trade adjustment assistance under Section 246 of the Trade Act of 1974."

Signed in Washington, D.C. this 24th day of August, 2004.

/s/ Linda G. Poole

LINDA G. POOLE
Certifying Officer, Division of
Trade Adjustment Assistance